

# **Iowa Hunter Education Program Hunting Incident Report**

**January 1, 2004 - December 31, 2004**



**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Jeffrey R. Vonk, Director**

**February 2005**

# Iowa Hunter Education Program Hunting Incident Report



## **Prepared by:**

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Law Enforcement Bureau**



**Conservation and Recreation Division**

**February 2005**

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# **Iowa Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Bureau**

## **IOWA SETS NEW HUNTING SAFETY RECORD**

The 2004 hunting season in Iowa was the safest on record with 17 hunting related injuries and zero fatalities. The investigation into a fatality initially thought was hunting related was determined by the Polk County Medical Examiner to have been a suicide.

Rod Slings, recreation safety program supervisor with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources said he credits hard work by the 1,800 volunteer hunter education instructors and the new blaze orange requirement as the biggest factors

"This has been a long time goal of the department and while one injury is too many, having a year with no fatalities is tremendous," Slings said. Much of the hunter education course is taken from investigations into hunting incidents. The DNR began tracking hunting related incidents in 1964.

The number one cause of hunting related injuries is swinging on game or shooting at running deer.

"We are now seeing hunting incidents become news because they are so few," he said. "And I believe that can be traced directly to the requirement of hunter education."

The Iowa legislature passed a law requiring hunters born after Jan. 1, 1967, to successfully complete a hunter education course. Each year, another 12,000 to 15,000 hunters receive safety training in the courses. "Hunting is part of our heritage and is an important tradition in our state. Anytime a hunter hears of an incident happening, they will be reminded of how much safer they are in the field today than when all this started 40 years ago," Slings said. "Hunting is a safe activity and is getting safer."



THOMAS J. VILSACK  
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SALLY J. PEDERSON  
LT. GOVERNOR

January 31, 2005

Dear Iowa Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor,

Department of Natural Resources Director Jeffery R. Vonk and I would like to thank and congratulate each and every one of you for your volunteerism and dedication to our great state! Whether you realize it or not, YOU were instrumental in 2004 being a record-setting year in the state of Iowa for hunting safety. In the past year, we have had the lowest number of hunting related injuries on record. In addition to that, since records began back in 1964, 2004 was the first year EVER that Iowa had ZERO firearm related hunting fatalities! YOU are making a difference!

Hunting in Iowa is one of our oldest traditions. Hunting has been a part of our Iowa heritage since the first step of mankind appeared on the fertile prairie soil. The Iowa landscape has produced not only an abundance, but also high quality wildlife for all Iowans to enjoy. As a hunter myself, I join many of you in the field each year. The enjoyment of hunters like me is greatly enhanced knowing that your efforts have made the pursuit of wildlife in the great outdoors so much safer.

Since 1960, Iowa has utilized dedicated Hunter Education Volunteers to keep hunting safe in Iowa. The 1,800 dedicated Instructors donating their time and energy to maintain the sport as a safe recreational activity, is truly remarkable. I understand that some of you have provided this volunteer service to Iowa for over 40 years. Zero fatalities this year speaks volumes not only of the dedication you have to the responsibility of providing hunter safety instruction, but how effective you are in this role.

As Director Vonk and his staff continue to support your efforts, I will do everything I can as governor to help keep Iowans safe. My signing of the mandatory wearing of blaze orange for hunting upland game birds last year has had amazing compliance. This too is keeping hunters in the field visible and safe.

Once again, I thank you for your service to Iowa. Each day we are impressed with the giving of our citizens back to our wonderful state. You are all to be praised for passing on the message of safety and ethic's to Iowa's next generation of hunters.

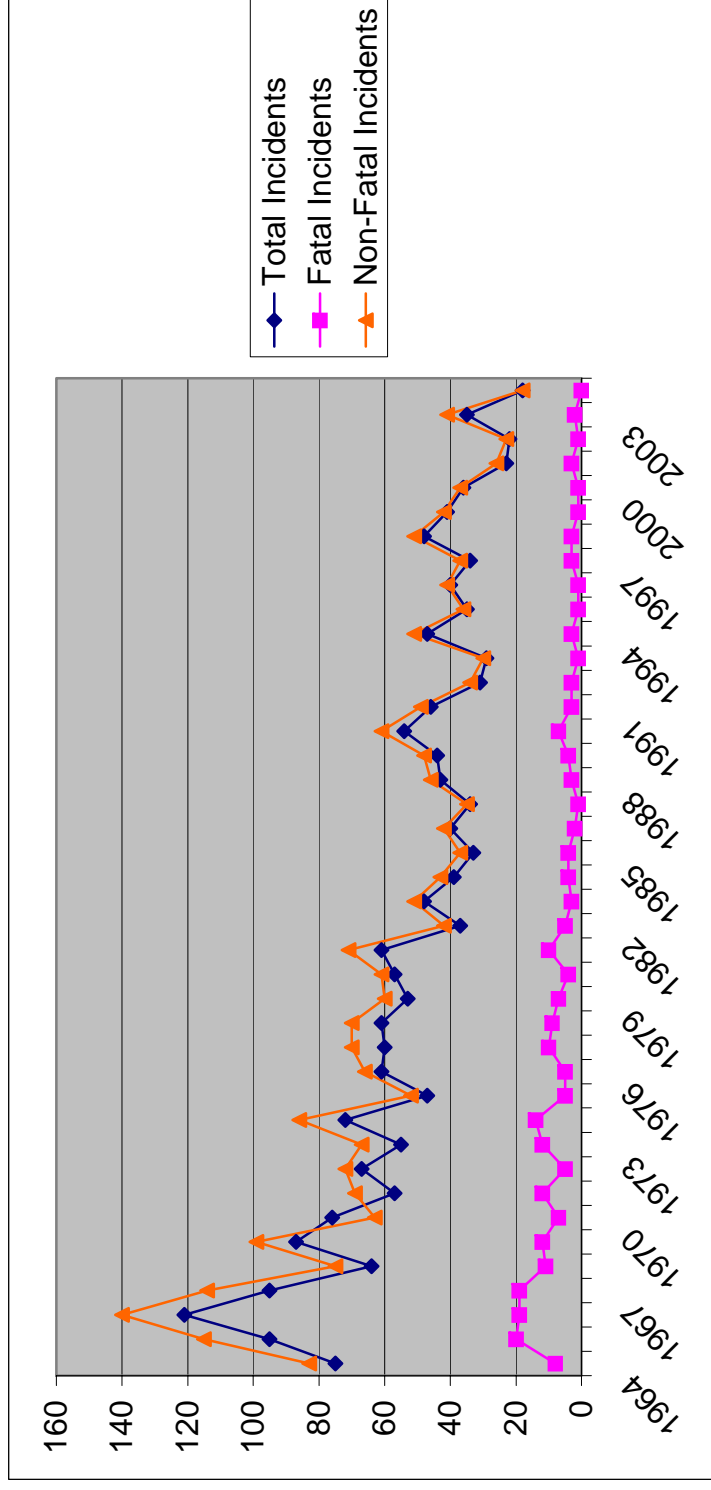
Sincerely,

  
Thomas Vilsack  
Governor

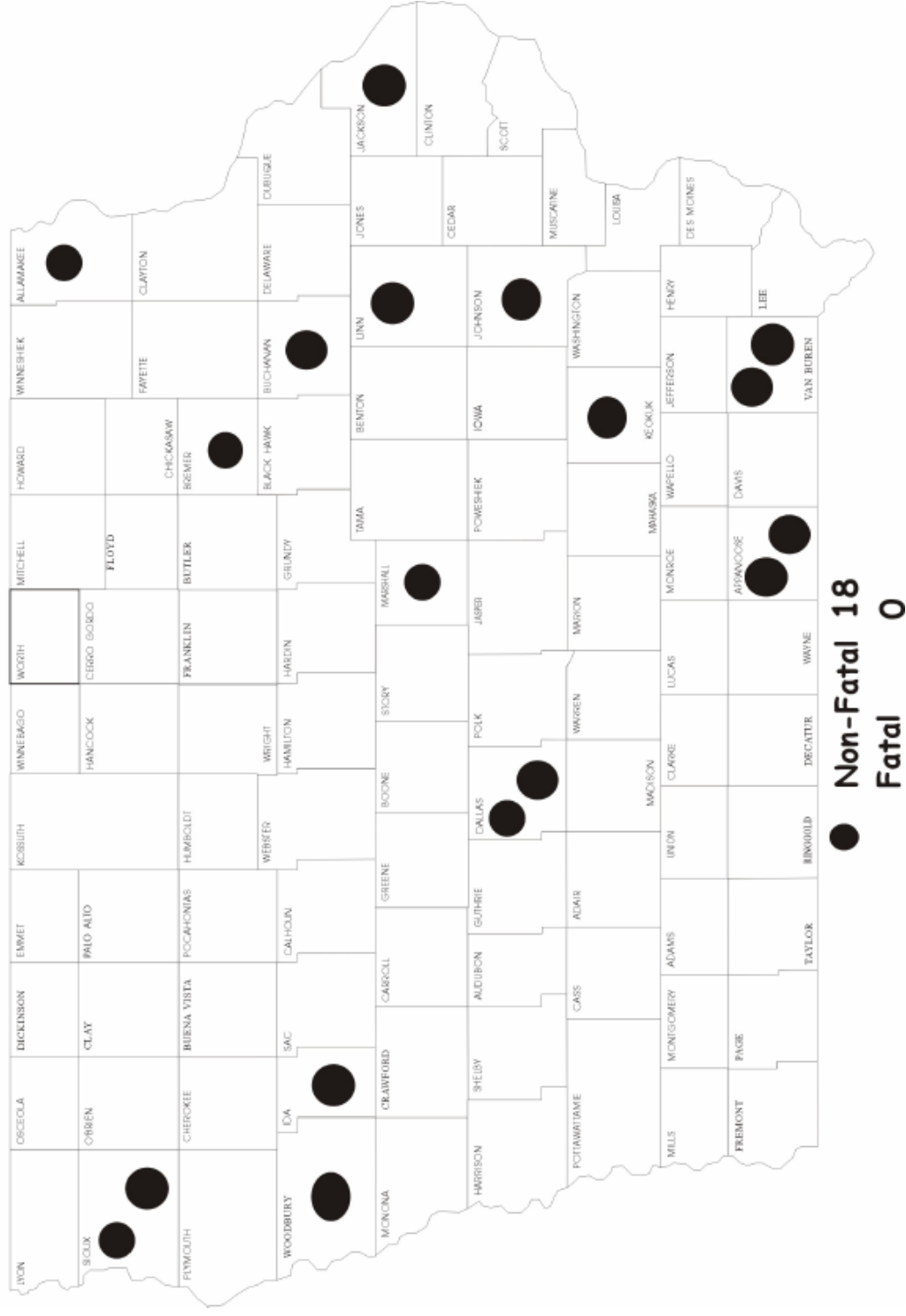
  
Jeffery R. Vonk  
Director DNR



# Iowa Hunting Incidents 1964 - 2004



# 2004 HUNTING INCIDENTS



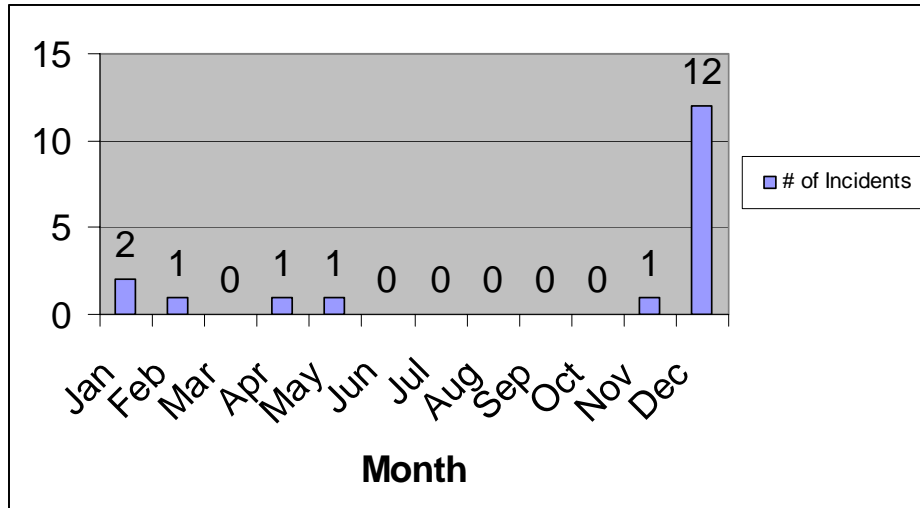
2004 Hunter Education Classes By County



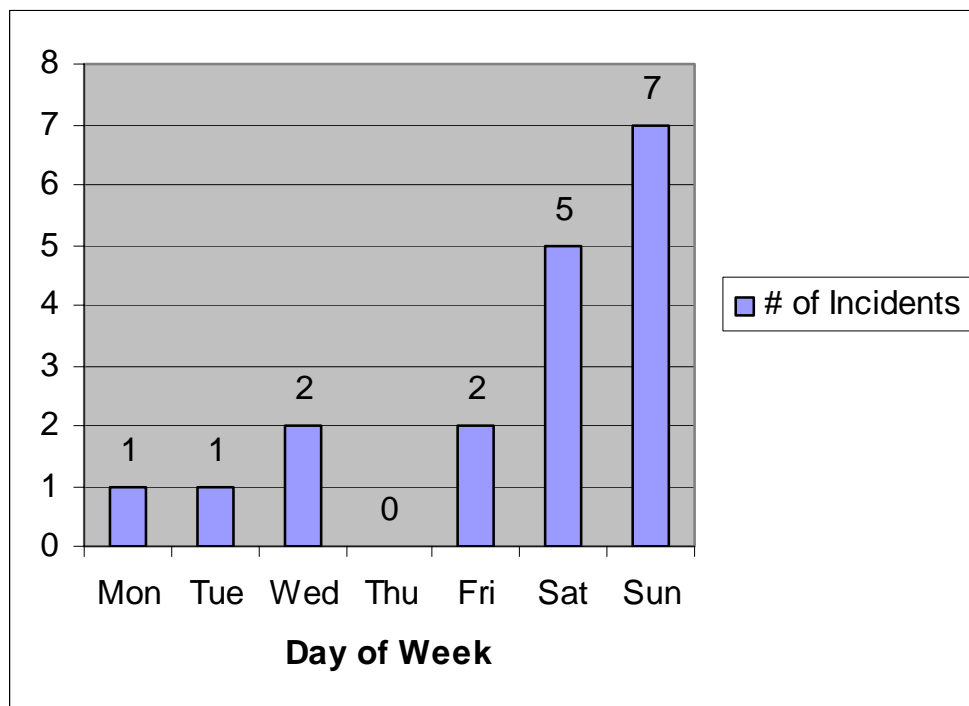
**Total Students Certified: 12,737**



## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Month

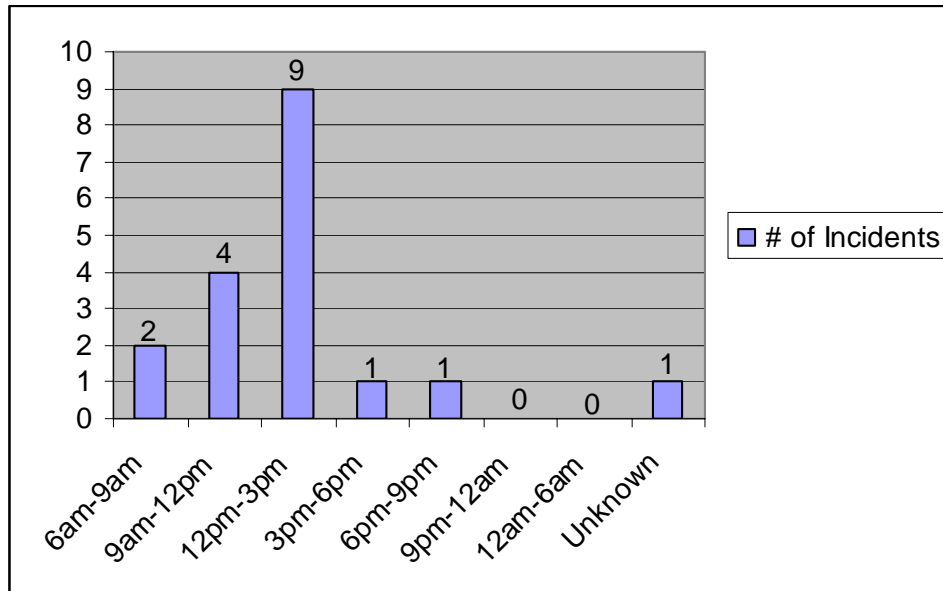


## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Day of Week

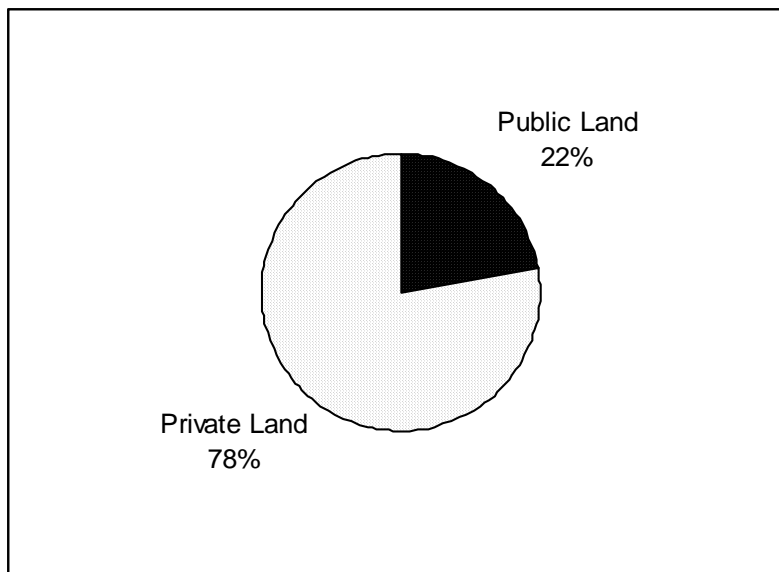




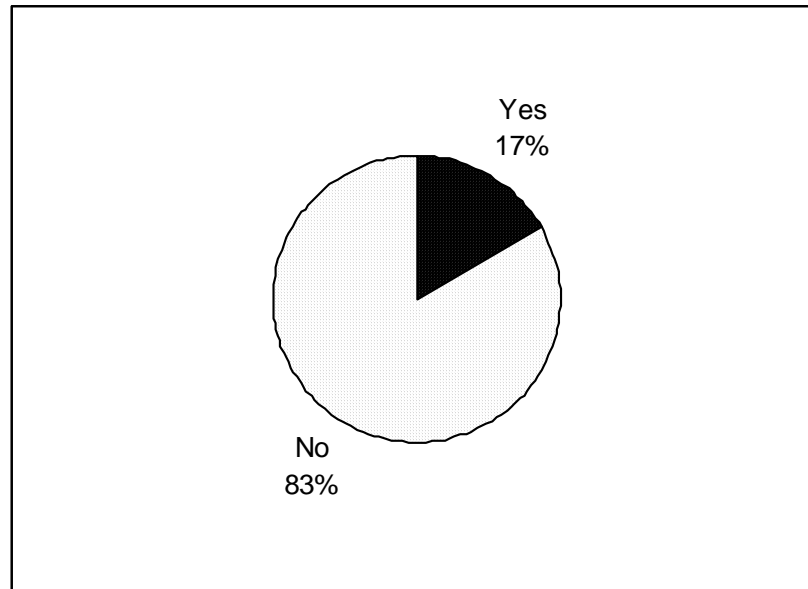
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Time Of Day



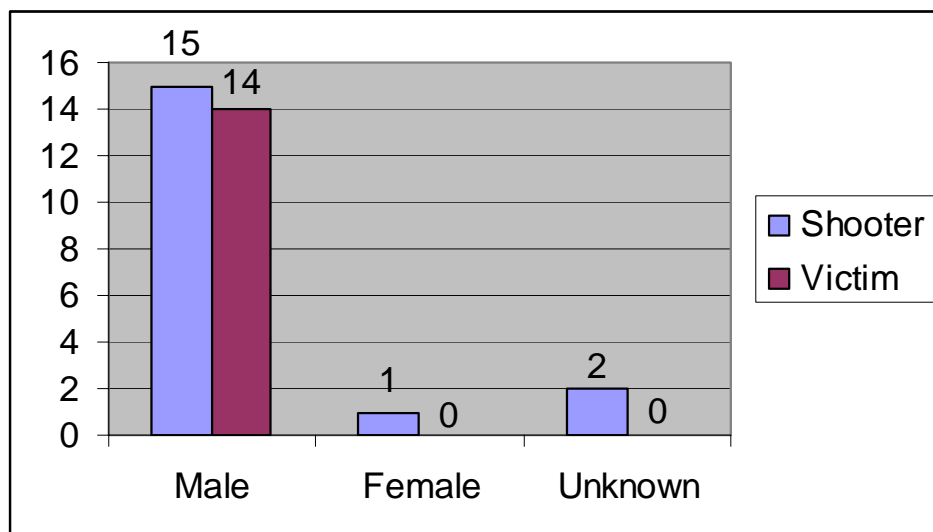
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Land Specification



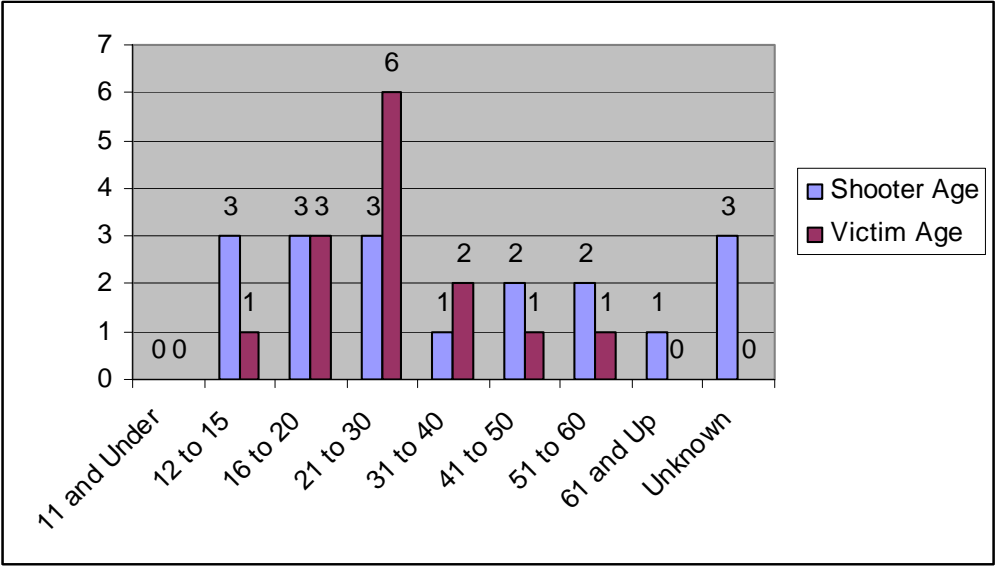
## 2004 Hunting Incidents Self Inflicted



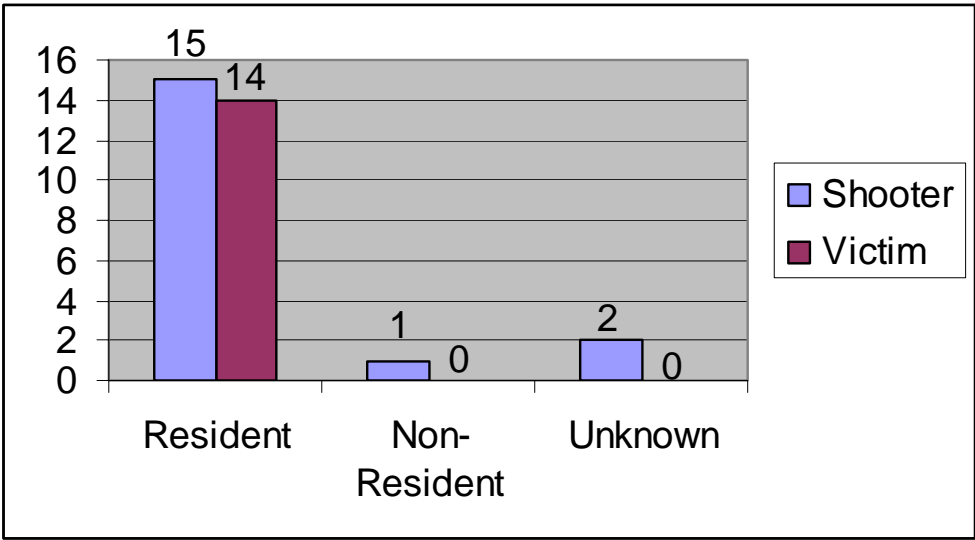
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Gender



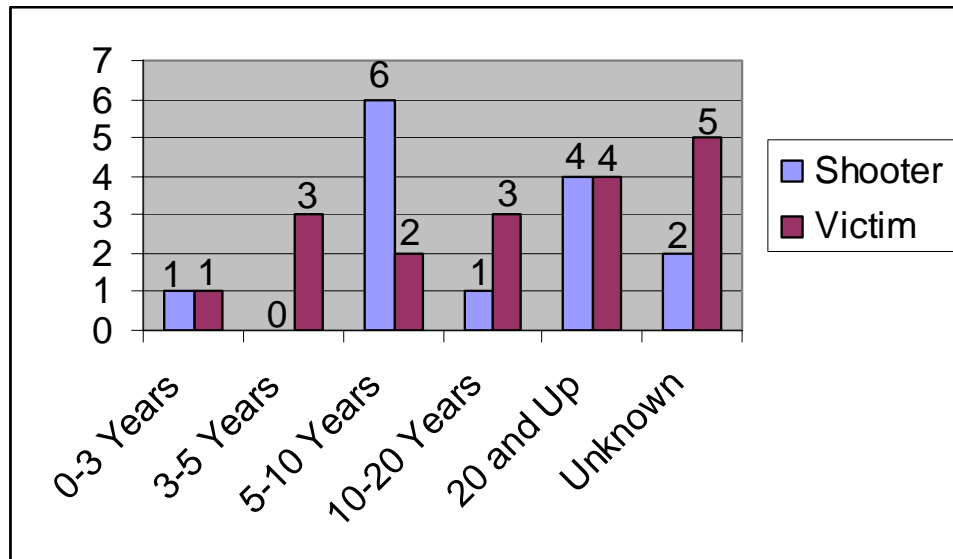
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Age



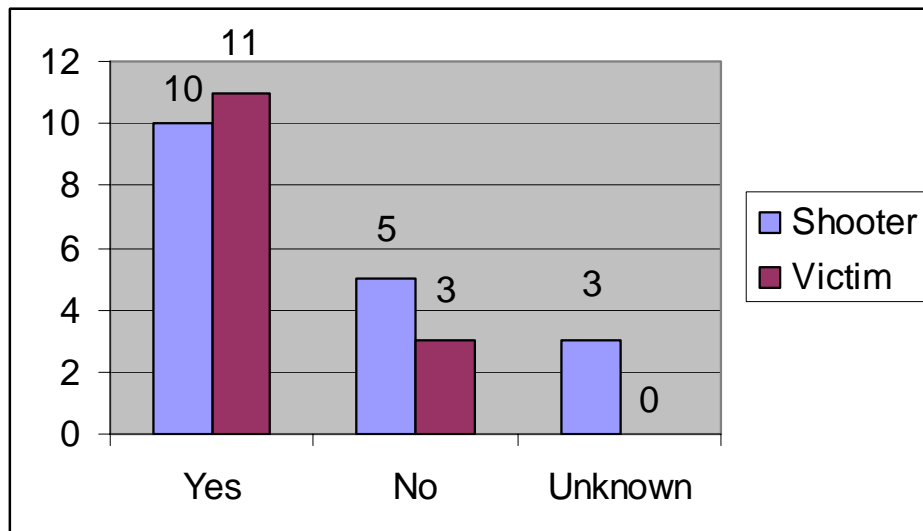
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Status



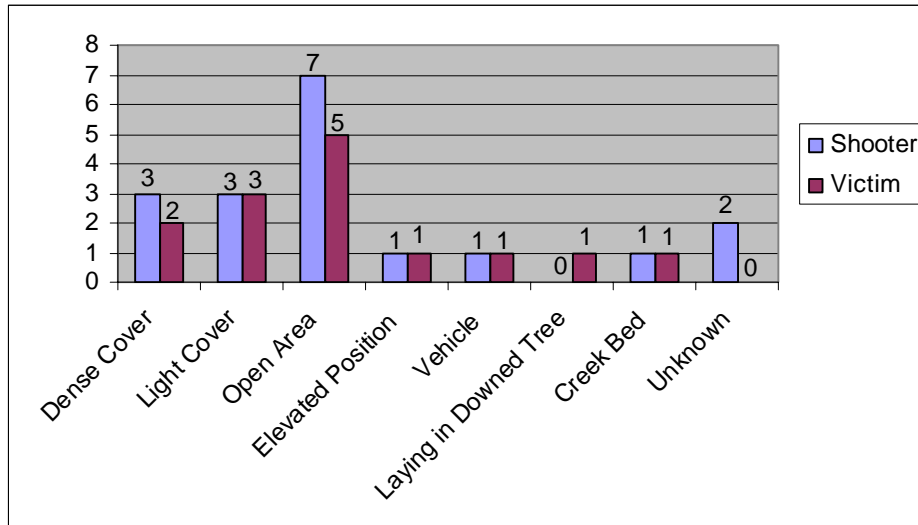
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Experience



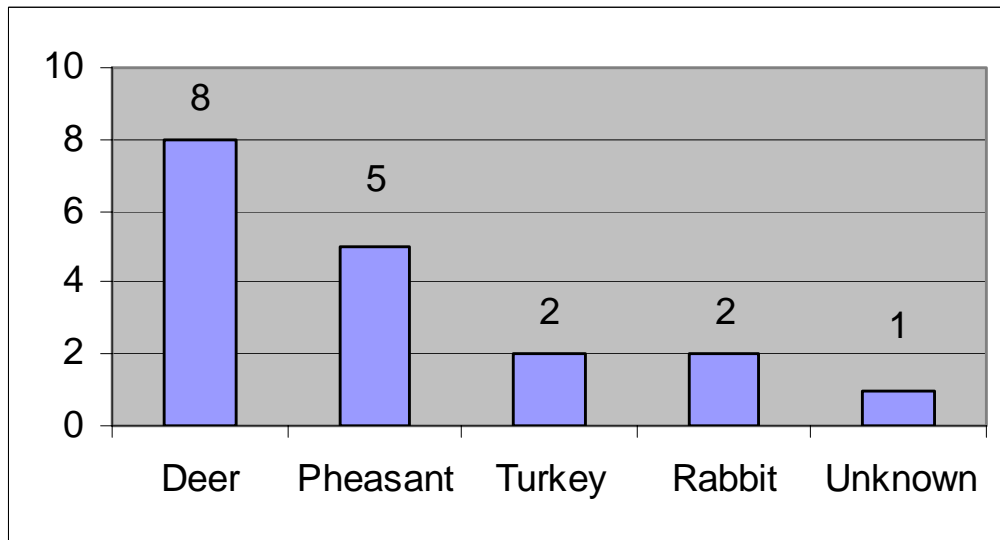
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Hunter Education Certification



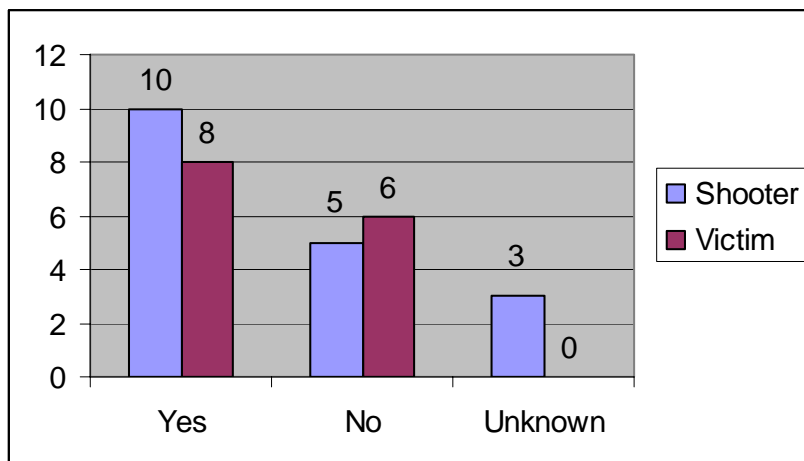
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Location



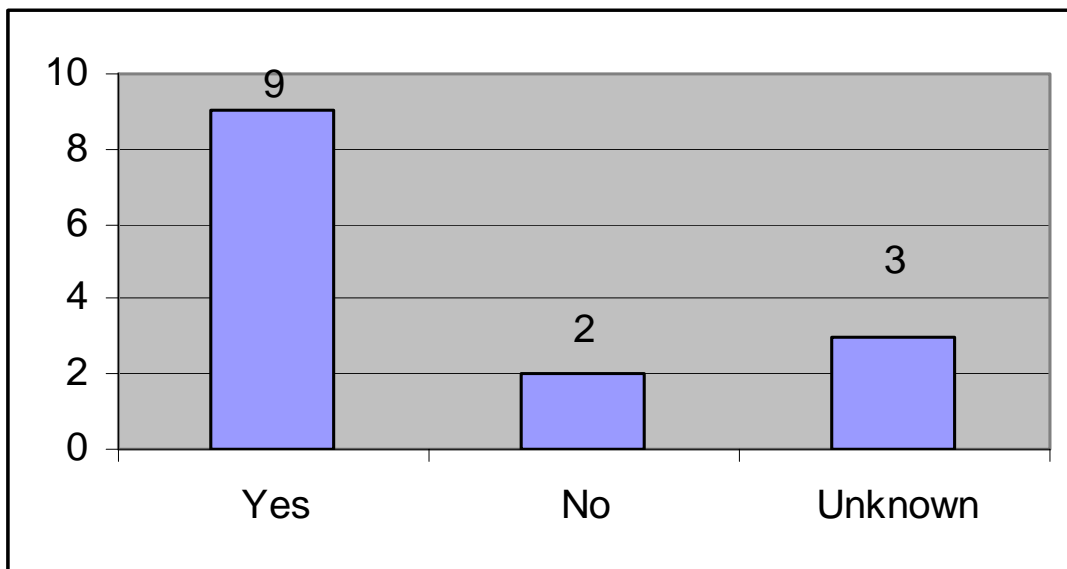
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Animal Hunted



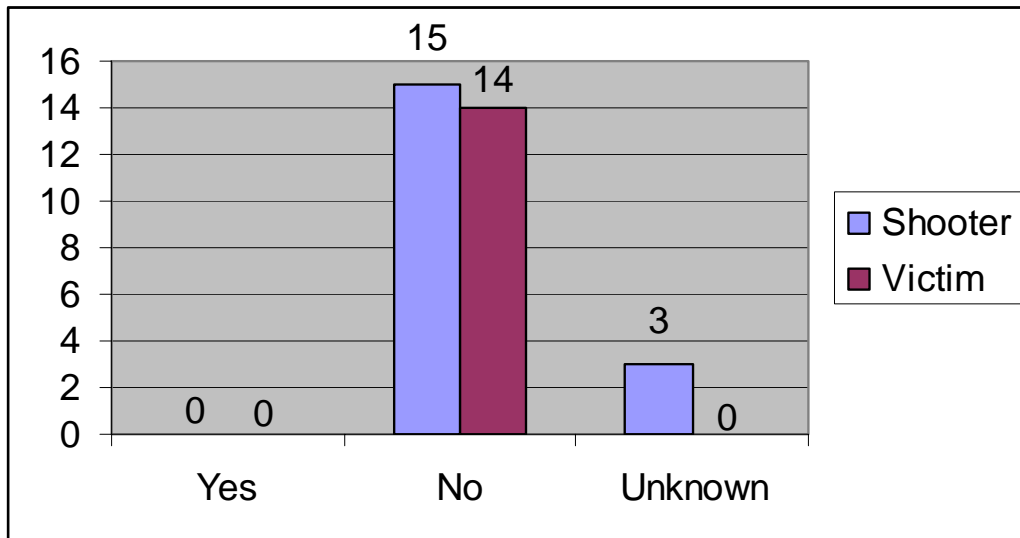
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Wearing Blaze Orange



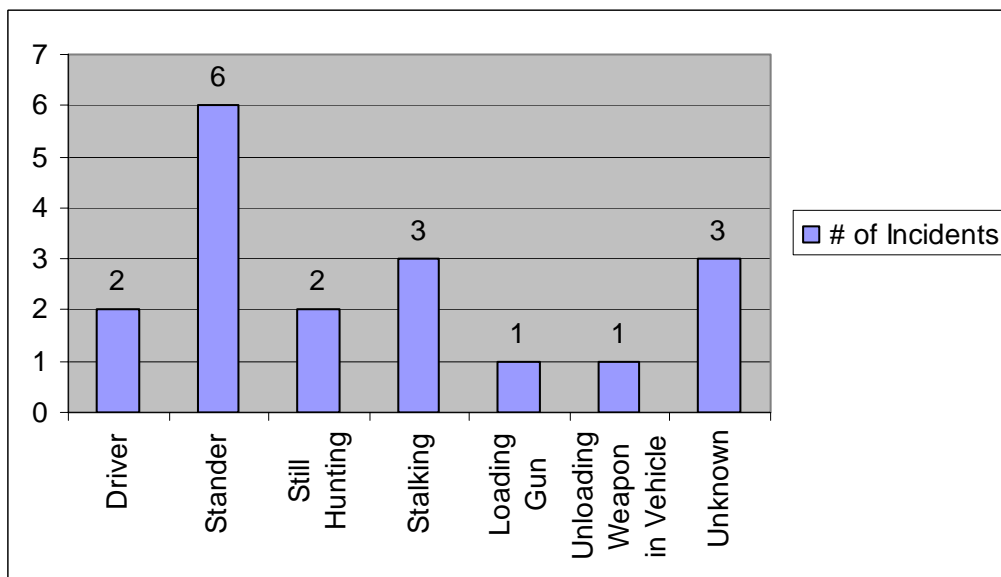
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Shooter Could See Victim



## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Intoxicants Used Prior to Incident

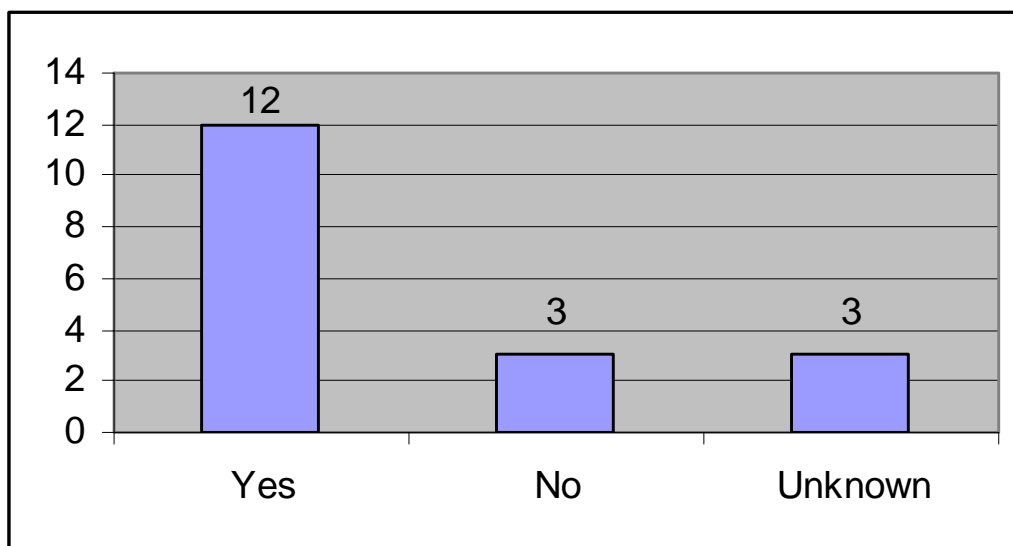


## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Type of Activity Shooter Involved In

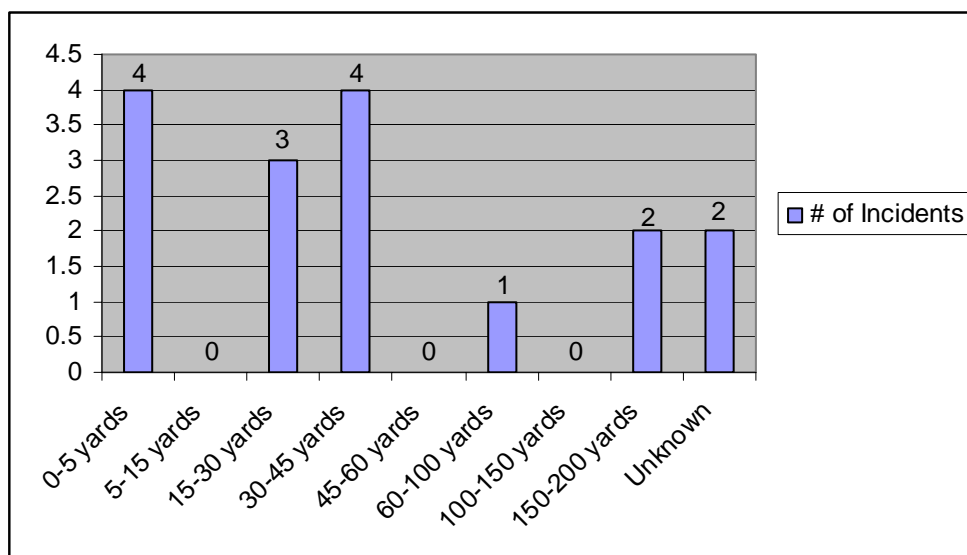




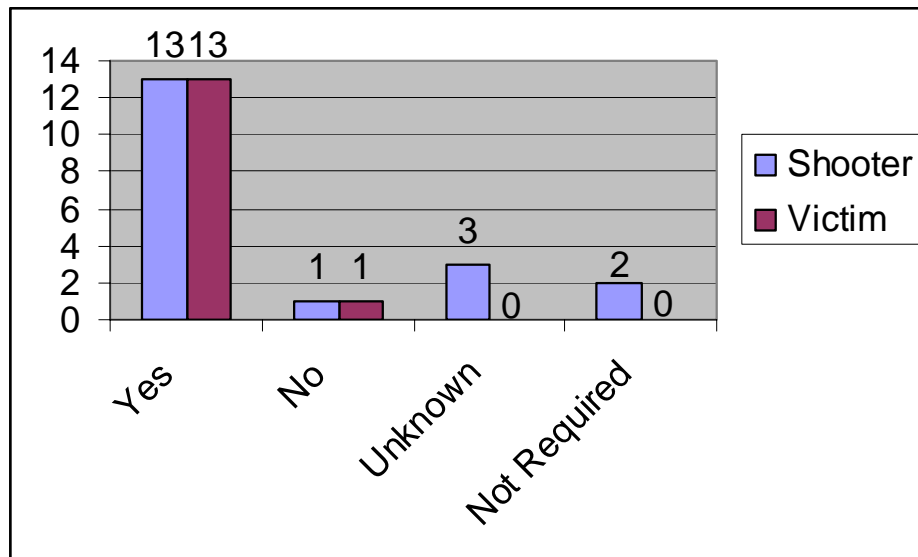
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Shooter Attempting to Bag Game



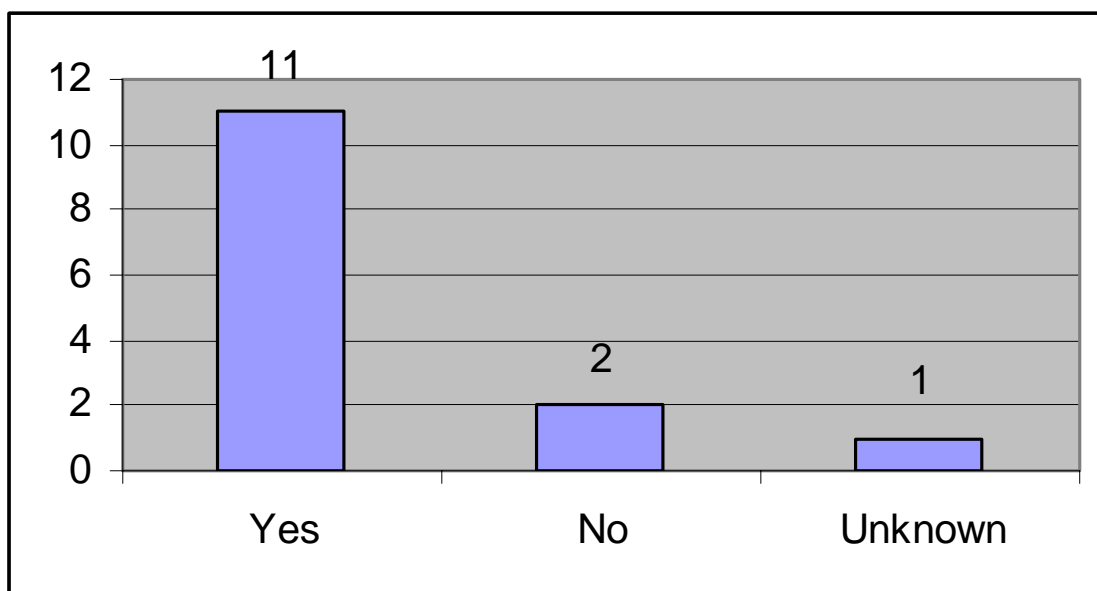
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Distance from Muzzle to Wound



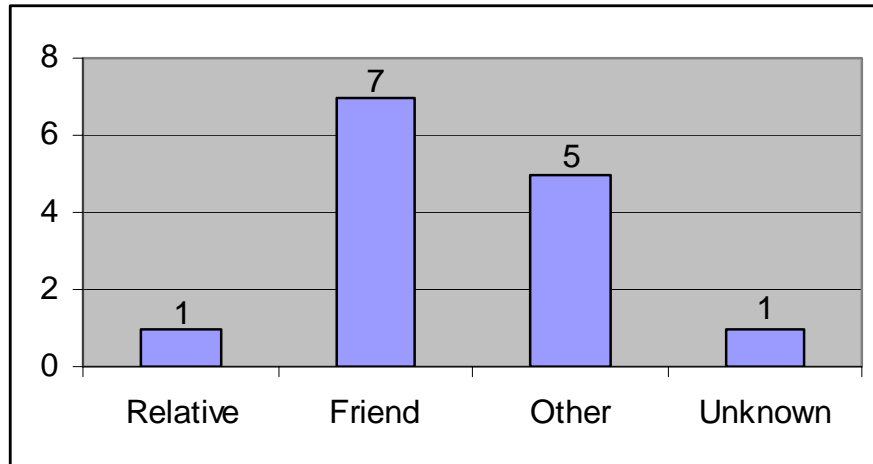
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Hunting License



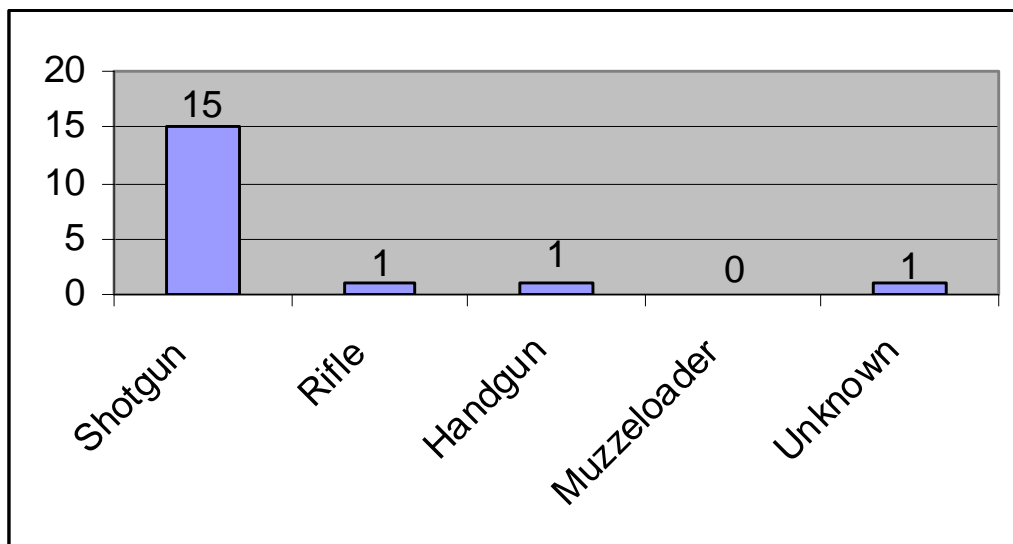
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Shooter in Same Hunting Party as Victim



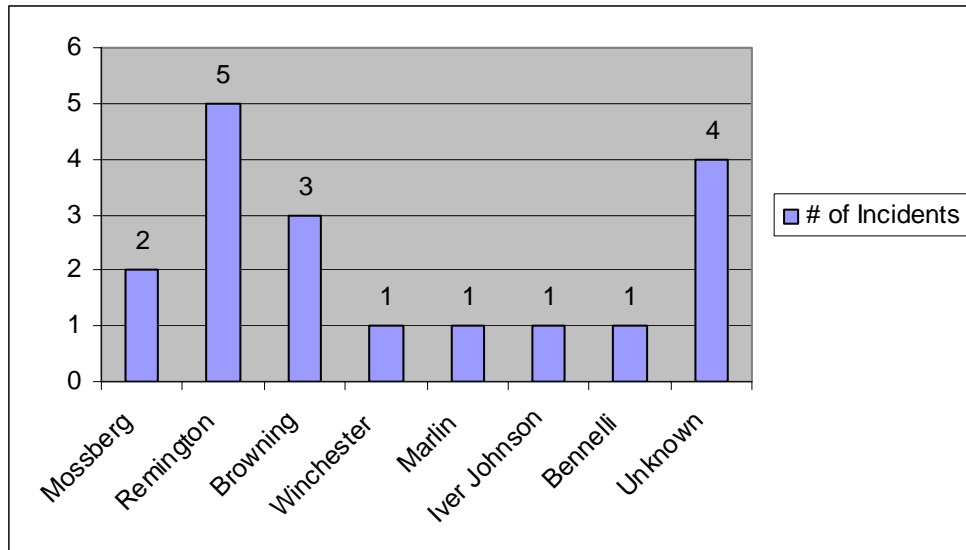
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Shooter's Relationship to Victim



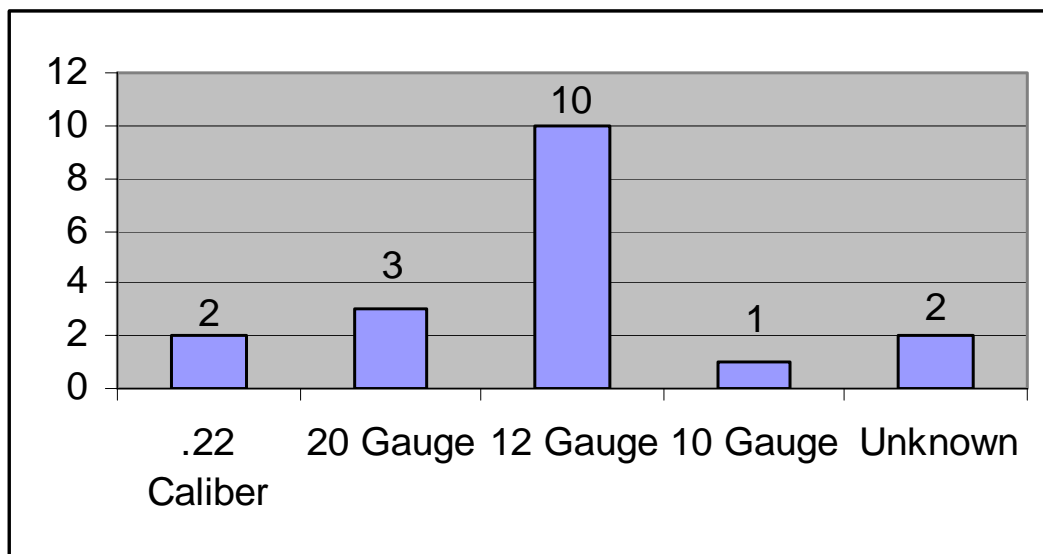
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Type of Firearm Used by Shooter



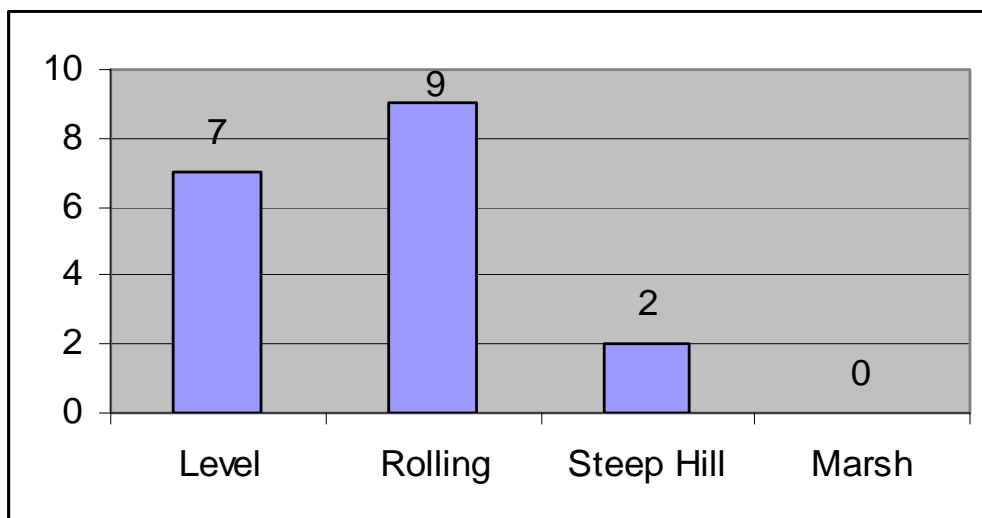
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Make of Firearm Used By Shooter



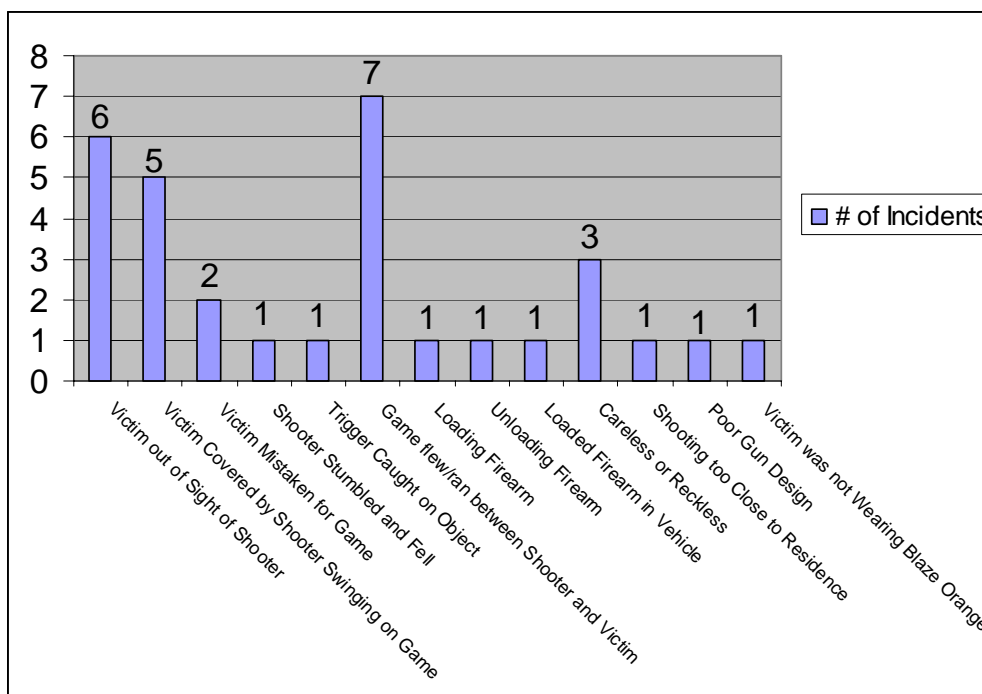
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Caliber/Gauge of Firearm Used By Shooter



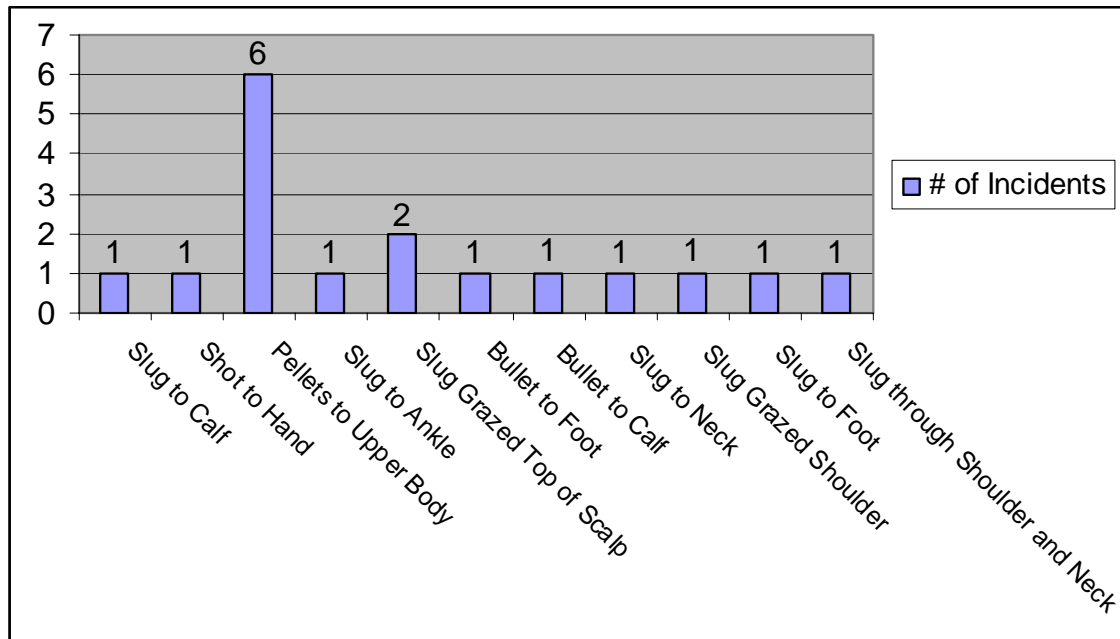
## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Topography



## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Contributing Factor



## 2004 Hunting Incidents By Type of Injury



Incident: *One*

Property Damage (   )

Personal Injury ( *X* )

Fatal (   )

Self Inflicted (   )

Same Party ( *X* )

Date and Day of the Week: *01/02/04 (Friday)*

County of Incident: *Dallas*

**Shooter Information**

Age: *30*

Hunter Education: *Yes*

Years Hunting Experience: *14 Years*

Game Hunted: *Pheasant*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Browning BPS Shotgun*

**Victim Information**

Age Victim 1: *60*   Age Victim 2: *24*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *No (Both Victims)*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *40 Yards*

Type of Cover: *Scrub Brush/Trees*

**Narrative:** *The shooter was pheasant hunting when he spotted a pheasant on the ground and took one shot. The shot was taken into some heavy brush. Several pellets from the shot struck both victims in the upper body and leg.*

**Cause:** *Game ran then flew between shooter and victims, victims out of sight of shooter, lack of blaze orange*

**Prevention:** *Know where all the members are of your hunting party before you take a shot and when hunting upland game wear blaze orange.*

.....

Incident: *Two*

Property Damage (   )

Personal Injury ( *X* )

Fatal (   )

Self Inflicted ( *X* )

Same Party (   )

Date and Day of the Week: *01/03/04 (Saturday)*

County of Incident: *Sioux*

**Shooter Information**

Age: *15*

Hunter Education: *Yes*

Years Hunting Experience: *4 Years*

Game Hunted: *Rabbit*

Attempting to Bag Game: *No*

Firearm Used: *Iver Johnson .22 Caliber Single Action Revolver*

**Victim Information**

Age: *N/A (Victim is Shooter)*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *No*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *12 inches*

Type of Cover: *In Vehicle*

**Narrative:** *Shooter/Victim was rabbit hunting and entered his friends vehicle to travel to a different area to hunt. Once inside the car the Shooter/Victim realized the gun was still loaded so he began to unload it. The gun was of a design that requires the operator to hold the hammer in a half-cocked position with one hand while turning the cylinder and operating the ejector rod with the other. The Shooter/Victim's thumb slipped and the gun fired a bullet into his lower calf.*

**Cause:** *Unloading firearm, poor gun design, loaded firearm in vehicle*

**Prevention:** *Always unload your gun with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and also unload your gun before entering a vehicle.*



Incident: *Three*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( X )

Same Party ( )

Date and Day of the Week: *02/06/2004 (Friday)*

County of Incident: *Bremer*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *17*

Hunter Education: *Yes*

Age: *N/A (Victim is Shooter)*

Years Hunting Experience: *10 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *No*

Game Hunted: *Rabbit*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *1 foot*

Attempting to Bag Game: *No*

Type of Cover: *Road Ditch*

Firearm Used: *.22 Caliber Marlin 39A Rifle*

**Narrative:** *The shooter was getting ready to hunt rabbits when he exited the vehicle and loaded the lever action rifle. The shooter attempted to decock the hammer, he does not remember if the hammer slipped off of his thumb or if the gun just went off, but the gun discharged and sent the bullet into his foot.*

**Cause:** *Muzzle not pointed in a safe direction when loading the firearm*

**Prevention:** *Always keep the muzzle of your gun pointed in a safe direction when loading/unloading your gun.*

.....

Incident: *Four*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( )

Date and Day of the Week: *04/12/2004 (Monday)*

County of Incident: *Allamakee*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *60*

Hunter Education: *No*

Age: *40*

Years Hunting Experience: *48 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *No*

Game Hunted: *Turkey*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *22 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Wooded Area*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Remington 870 Super Magnum Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *3 Hunters all hunting without permission from the landowner on a farm in northeastern Iowa. Both parties were not aware of each others presence prior to the incident. The shooter was stalking what he believed was a turkey for approximately 45 minutes when he shot at movement when he thought he saw something red. The victim, who was laying on the ground in the fork of a downed tree, was hit with approximately 100 pellets in the back of the head, neck, and upper shoulder.*

**Cause:** *Victim mistaken for game*

**Prevention:** *Always ask for permission before hunting on someone's property. Not only is it illegal, it is not safe because you never know if someone is already out there. Always make sure to identify your target before shooting.*

Incident: *Five*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( X )

Date and Day of the Week: *05/12/2004 (Wednesday)*

County of Incident: *Dallas*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *43*

Hunter Education: *No*

Age: *35*

Years Hunting Experience: *Unknown*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *No*

Game Hunted: *Turkey*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *40 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Wooded Area*

Firearm Used: *10 Gauge Browning BPS Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *The victim was returning to the truck from hunting turkeys earlier that morning, at which time he had removed his hat. The victim shaved his head and was bald. The shooter saw what he thought was the white head of a turkey and shot once. The victim was struck by sixty pellets to the right side of the head and upper chest.*

**Cause:** *Victim mistaken for game*

**Prevention:** *Always identify your target before taking a shot.*

.....

Incident: *Six*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( X )

Date and Day of the Week: *11/21/2004 (Sunday)*

County of Incident: *Ida*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *18*

Hunter Education: *Yes*

Age: *18*

Years Hunting Experience: *6 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes (Vest)*

Game Hunted: *Pheasant*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *20 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Creek Bank CRP*

Firearm Used: *20 Gauge Mossberg 500G Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *The Shooter and Victim were pheasant hunting along a creek bank, walking on opposite sides of the creek. When the dog flushed a bird, it flew ahead of both hunters and then changed direction passing over the victim. The shooter swung on the bird and fired one shot, part of which struck the victim. The shot struck his right arm, lower abdomen, upper chest and left hand.*

**Cause:** *Victim covered by Shooter swinging on game, game flew/ran between Shooter and Victim, careless discharge of firearm*

**Prevention:** *Never shoot beyond your zone of fire.*

Incident: *Seven*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/04/2004 (Saturday)*

County of Incident: *Marshall*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *Unknown*

Hunter Education: *Unknown*

Age: *27*

Years Hunting Experience:

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes (Vest)*

Game Hunted: *Pheasant*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *Unknown*

Attempting to Bag Game: *No*

Type of Cover: *Grass Road Ditch*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Remington 870 Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *Victim hunting pheasants in road ditch and was shot across top of his left foot with deer slug. Victim did not shoot his gun and did not hear any other shots. Unknown shooter.*

**Cause:** *Victim may have been out of site of the shooter.*

**Prevention:** *Know what is beyond your target!*

.....

Incident: *Eight*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( X )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/05/2004 (Sunday)*

County of Incident: *Jackson*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *15*

Hunter Education: *No*

Age: *19*

Years Hunting Experience: *8 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes (Vest)*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *4 Feet*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Open Forest*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Benneli Black Eagle*

**Narrative:** *Victim and Shooter were making a drive through an open wooded area. Victim was ahead of the shooter by about 10/15 feet. Both persons started down a slight incline into a creek bed. They spotted a deer ahead of them and the victim shot twice at the deer and missed. The shooter standing on the hillside above and behind the victim took his gun off of safe and stepped forward preparing to shoot. The victim lost footing sliding in the soft wet soil and discharged his gun. Muzzle was approximately 4 feet from victim. The slug grazed the victim's scalp creating an approximate 5"/6" furrow in his hair from the back right to the front left.*

**Cause:** *Shooter slipped and accidentally discharged gun*

**Prevention:** *Proper gun handling and always keep control of the muzzle.*

Incident: *Nine*

Property Damage ( )      Personal Injury ( X )      Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )      Same Party ( X )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/05/2004 (Sunday)*

County of Incident: *Sioux*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *52*      Hunter Education: *No*

Age: *30*

Years Hunting Experience: *40 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes (Coat/Vest)*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *71 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Waterway Native Grass*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Winchester 1300 Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *Prior to the deer passing between the shooter and the victim, the victim and another hunter saw the shooter draw a bead on the deer right in line with them. The hunters were both screaming at the shooter not to shoot. According to the shooter he thought he waited long enough for the deer to clear them. The shooter struck the victim in the foot with a slug.*

**Cause:** *Game ran between the shooter and victim, victim covered by shooter swinging on game*

**Prevention:** *Always know what is beyond your target and never take a shot unless you have a good backstop.*

.....

Incident: *Ten*

Property Damage ( )      Personal Injury ( X )      Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )      Same Party ( X )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/05/2004 (Sunday)*

County of Incident: *Buchanan*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *37*      Hunter Education: *Yes*

Age: *13*

Years Hunting Experience: *17 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *No*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *35 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

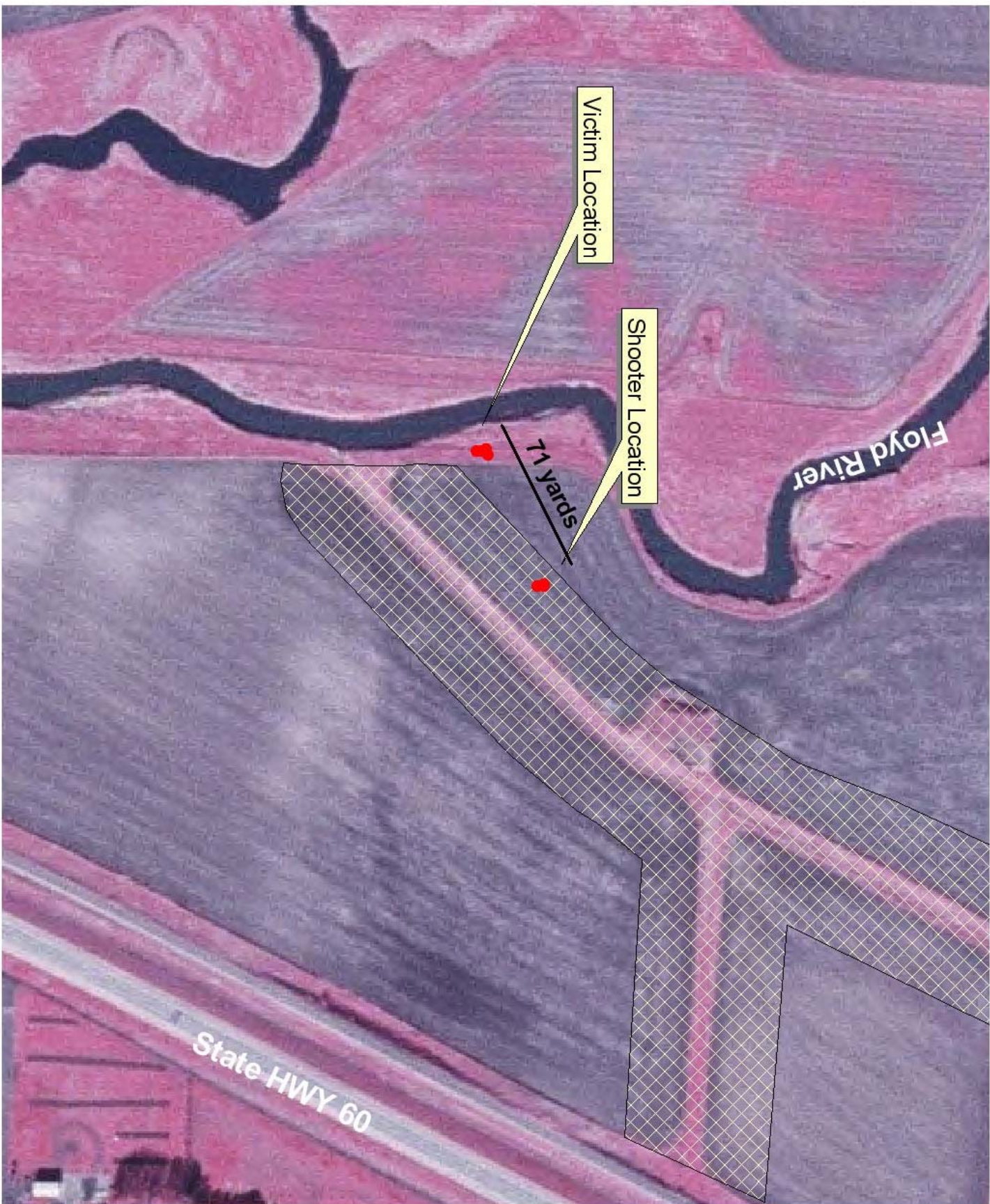
Type of Cover: *Tall Grass*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Browning Gold Hunter Semi Automatic Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *Victim was walking a grass waterway without any orange clothing on. Shooter was on stand in cornfield when deer began to run. Shooter shot at deer not knowing where victim was. The slug grazed across the top of the victim's right shoulder.*

**Cause:** *Victim not wearing blaze orange, victim standing in a tall grass cover and was not seen by shooter*

**Prevention:** *Always know where other members of your hunting party are located. Do not shoot unless you know. Always wear the required blaze orange during firearms deer season.*



Victim Location

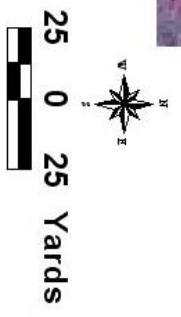
Shooter Location

Floyd River

71 yards

State HWY 60

● Locations  
▨ New CRP buffer





Incident: *Eleven*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/07/2004 (Tuesday)*

County of Incident: *Van Buren*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *Unknown*

Hunter Education: *Unknown*

Age: *22*

Years Hunting Experience: *Unknown*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes (Coat/Vest/Hat)*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *Unknown*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Unknown*

Type of Cover: *Open Area*

Firearm Used: *Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *The victim was on stand in an open area where there was shooting on all sides of him. The victim was not sure at first that he had even been shot, as the slug just grazed his scalp. The victim was a member of a party of eight hunters. He was the east most of four standers. The victim stated that several deer emerged from the drive, and ran on both sides of him. He also stated that there were other unknown hunters present on the property.*

**Cause:** *Victim out of sight of the shooter, Game ran between shooter and the victim*

**Prevention:** *Always know where the other members of your hunting party are located and always know what is beyond your target.*

.....

Incident: *Twelve*

Property Damage ( X )

Personal Injury ( )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/11/2004 (Saturday)*

County of Incident: *Appanoose*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *44*

Hunter Education: *No*

Age: *N/A (Property Damage)*

Years Hunting Experience: *35*

Blaze Orange Apparel:

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Distance of Muzzle to Damage: *527 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Alfalfa*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Mossberg 500A Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *The shooter was on stand just east of the residence when a deer ran between the trailer and the shooter. The shooter took three shots, one of the shots entered the outer wall of a trailer, then passed through the interior wall and a hollow core closet door before coming to rest on the kitchen floor.*

**Cause:** *Game ran between shooter and trailer*

**Prevention:** *Always know what is beyond your target and only take a shot when you have a good backstop.*

Incident: *Thirteen*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( )

Same Party ( X )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/12/2004 (Sunday)*

County of Incident: *Van Buren*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *25*

Hunter Education: *Yes*

Age: *16*

Years Hunting Experience: *15*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes (Coat/Vest/Hat)*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *40 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Wooded Area*

Firearm Used: *20 Gauge Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *The victim had been on stand facing west, as the drivers worked east and south toward their position. The shooter was on stand in a straight line to the north from the victim. The shooter stated that he fired several times at deer running by to his left, but he believed he was shooting behind the victim. One of the shooter's slugs entered the victim's left leg breaking the tibia and then exited.*

**Cause:** *Victim out of sight of shooter, shooter swinging on game*

**Prevention:** *Always know where other members of your hunting party are located and know what is beyond your target before taking a shot.*

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Incident: *Fourteen*

Property Damage ( )

Personal Injury ( X )

Fatal ( )

Self Inflicted ( X )

Same Party ( )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/15/2004 (Wednesday)*

County of Incident: *Appanoose*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *67*

Hunter Education: *No*

Age: *N/A (Victim is Shooter)*

Years Hunting Experience: *60*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes*

Game Hunted: *Pheasant*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *Point Blank*

Attempting to Bag Game: *No*

Type of Cover: *Weeds*

Firearm Used: *20 Gauge Remington 1100 Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *The victim rested his shotgun against a barbed wire fence next to the road before he began to climb over it. The victim said as he stepped on the strand of barbed wire the shotgun was resting on, both the wire and the shotgun slid down the post. After he got over the fence, he reached through and grabbed the gun by the barrel with his left hand. The victim stated when he pulled the shotgun through the fence, his hand slid up the barrel and the gun went off injuring his left hand.*

**Cause:** *Trigger caught on object, improper crossing of obstacle*

**Prevention:** *Always make sure that your safety is on and the gun is unloaded before crossing an obstacle. Also make sure that the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.*



Incident: *Fifteen*

Property Damage (   )                      Personal Injury ( *X* )                      Fatal (   )

Self Inflicted (   )                      Same Party ( *X* )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/18/2004 (Saturday)*                      County of Incident: *Linn*

**Shooter Information**

Age: *27*                      Hunter Education: *Yes*

Years Hunting Experience: *Unknown*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Remington 870 Shotgun*

**Victim Information**

Age: *22*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *170 Yards*

Type of Cover: *Open Timber*

Narrative: *7 people in the hunting party. Group was making a deer drive not knowing the area or where their poster would be. Drivers saw a couple of deer and shot several times. Victim was on post and was shot in the neck by slug.*

Cause: *Victim out of sight of shooter, deer ran between shooter and victim, unorganized deer drive, no plan*

Prevention: *Better planned hunt. Know where people in the party are at and what is beyond your target.*

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Incident: *Sixteen*

Property Damage ( *X* )                      Personal Injury (   )                      Fatal (   )

Self Inflicted (   )                      Same Party (   )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/18/2004 (Saturday)*                      County of Incident: *Johnson*

**Shooter Information**

Age: *Unknown*                      Hunter Education: *Unknown*

Years Hunting Experience: *Unknown*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Unknown*

Firearm Used: *Unknown*

**Victim Information**

Age: *N/A (Property Damage)*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Unknown*

Distance of Muzzle to Damage: *Unknown*

Type of Cover: *Field/Cropland*

Narrative: *The slug entered the house near the center of the south wall, passed through the living room and stopped inside the entertainment center. Officers were unable to find any empty shell casings or any skip marks along the ridges of the field. The shooter is unknown.*

Cause: *Shooting too close to a residence*

Prevention: *Always know what is beyond your target.*

Incident: *Seventeen*

Property Damage (   )

Personal Injury ( *X* )

Fatal (   )

Self Inflicted (   )

Same Party ( *X* )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/19/2004 (Sunday)*

County of Incident: *Keokuk*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *18*

Hunter Education: *Yes*

Age: *24*

Years Hunting Experience: *3 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *No*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *183 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Open Bean Field*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *Victim was a passenger in vehicle chasing deer. The shooter was on stand when the deer ran between the vehicle and his location. The shooter thought that he had enough of a lead on the truck but one of his slug's entered the vehicles window and struck the victim in the shoulder. The slug continued through the right shoulder and exited out the left side of the victim's neck.*

**Cause:** *Chasing deer with a vehicle, shooting in an unsafe direction*

**Prevention:** *Always identify what is beyond your target and never pursue deer with a motor vehicle.*

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Incident: *Eighteen*

Property Damage (   )

Personal Injury ( *X* )

Fatal (   )

Self Inflicted (   )

Same Party ( *X* )

Date and Day of the Week: *12/26/2004 (Sunday)*

County of Incident: *Woodbury*

Shooter Information

Victim Information

Age: *13*

Hunter Education: *Yes*

Age: *41*

Years Hunting Experience: *3 Years*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes*

Game Hunted: *Pheasant*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *30 Yards*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Type of Cover: *Brome Grass - Knee High*

Firearm Used: *12 Gauge Remington Express Shotgun*

**Narrative:** *Six hunters had been walking in a fairly straight line. Victim had just bagged a bird and was putting it in his vest. Another bird flushed in front of the shooter and flew towards the victim. Shooter fired and struck victim in the face.*

**Cause:** *Shooter swung on game*

**Prevention:** *Always know where the other members of your hunting party are located and closer supervision until older and more experienced.*

Continuing the Iowa Tradition



*"This is why we do what we do!"*

